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BEFORE THE

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C.

In re:

AMENDMENT OF SECTION 73.622 (b)
TABLE OF ALLOTMENTS
DTV BROADCAST STATIONS
ARKADELPHIA, ARKANSAS

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MM Docket No.

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

TO: Chief, Allocations Branch
Policy and Rules Division

PETITION FOR RULEMAKING

Arkansas Educational Television Commission ("AETC"), licensee of noncommercial educational station KETG(TV) ("KETG"), Channel *9, Arkadelphia, Arkansas, by its attorneys and pursuant to the Commission's Rules, hereby requests that the Commission institute a rulemaking proceeding to amend Section 73.622(b) of its Rules to substitute DTV Channel *13 in lieu of DTV Channel *46 as KETG's paired digital channel in Arkadelphia, Arkansas. This substitution of paired digital channels would serve the public interest. In addition, as the attached technical documentation demonstrates, KETG's proposed operation on Channel *13 will not cause impermissible interference to any other stations.

AETC proposes the following amendment to Section 73.622(b) of the Commission's

Rules:

<u>Community</u>	<u>Present</u>	<u>Proposed</u>
Arkadelphia, Arkansas	*46	*13

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In support of this petition, AETC submits the following:

A. Background.

AETC, a statewide public broadcaster and a government entity in the State of Arkansas, is the licensee of noncommercial educational television stations KETG, Arkadelphia, KETS, Little Rock, KAFT, Fayetteville, KEMV, Mountain View and KTEJ, Jonesboro. These stations are linked via broadcast auxiliary microwave stations to form the Arkansas Educational Television Network (AETN), which brings educational, cultural and informational programming, including children's programming, to all reaches of the State of Arkansas. AETN is Arkansas' only statewide television network, broadcasting to 90 percent of the state.

AETC has operated noncommercial educational station KETG on analog Channel *9 at Arkadelphia since 1976, providing the Arkadelphia area with noncommercial television service designed to inform, educate, motivate, entertain, enlighten and inspire.

B. The Proposed Change to the Table of Allotments Will Serve the Public Interest.

The proposed change to the DTV Table of Allotments will serve the public interest by enhancing KETG's and AETC's ability to provide high quality noncommercial educational programming.

The proposed substitution will allow AETC to preserve its and the Arkansas taxpayers' resources. By necessity, as a government entity operating a statewide public television network, AETC must be a careful steward of its resources, even while it seeks to offer the highest quality of public broadcasting service. AETC has looked forward to the activation of DTV facilities. The allocation of Channel *46 as its paired DTV channel, however, has created obstacles to the achievement of its goals. Substantial hardship will be inflicted upon AETC if it is required to activate its DTV channel on UHF Channel *46. Operation of that DTV station with power levels

of 937.1 kw as contemplated by the Commission will result in additional massive electrical power costs. This is in itself a devastating problem for this government entity operating with limited resources. This expense is especially significant in light of the fact that AETC has four additional DTV stations to construct, operate and maintain, all within a short span of time.

C. The Proposed Change to the Table of Allotments Will Not Result in Impermissible Interference with Surrounding Stations.

Under Section § 73.622(f)(5) of the Commission Rules, an existing licensee with DTV allotment may seek a change in the station's channel if the licensee demonstrates that the change "complies with the technical criteria in §73.623(c), and thereby will not result in new interference exceeding the *de minimis* standard set forth in that section . . ." In accordance with these rules, AETC requests that the Commission substitute DTV Channel *13, at a power/height combination of no more than 7.3kw/326m, for DTV Channel *46. As the engineering statement accompanying this petition demonstrates, the proposed operation of KETG-DT on Channel *13 with ERP of 7.3 kw (utilizing a omnidirectional antenna) and HAAT of 326 m would in fact result in no impermissible interference to any other station. It would also comply with the community coverage requirements.

CONCLUSION

For all of these reasons, AETC requests that the Commission institute a rulemaking proceeding to amend Section 73.622 of its Rules to substitute DTV Channel *13 for DTV Channel *46 as the paired channel for KETG in Arkadelphia, Arkansas. If the Commission grants this petition and modifies the DTV Table of Allotments accordingly, AETC is committed to applying for and constructing its DTV station on Channel *13.

Respectfully Submitted,

ARKANSAS EDUCATIONAL
TELEVISION COMMISSION

By: Todd D. Gray
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May 8, 2000

ENGINEERING STATEMENT

**Of
Dennis W. Wallace
Wallace & Associates**

**In support of
Petition for Rule Making
Non-Commercial Digital Television Allotment
Arkadelphia, Arkansas
For Petitioner**

Arkansas Educational Television Commission

KETG-TV

Arkadelphia, Arkansas

Background

Arkansas Educational Television Commission, (AETC) is licensee of KETG-TV, which serves the Arkadelphia, Arkansas market with NTSC service on Channel 9. In its Sixth Report and Order, the Federal Communications Commission (Commission) allotted Channel 46 to Arkadelphia to be paired with KETG for its DTV service. For reasons explained elsewhere in this petition, AETC is requesting the Commission to allot DTV channel 13 to Arkadelphia to be paired with KETG-TV, channel 9, in place of channel 46.

This Engineering Statement has been prepared in support of a petition to amend the DTV allotment table as set forth in Section 73.622(b) and, more specifically,

	Channel Number	
	Present	Proposed
Arkansas		
•		
•		
Arkadelphia	*46	*13
•		

Allotment Study

It is proposed to change the Channel *46 DTV allotment to Channel *13 while maintaining the other allotment parameters regarding transmitter and tower location and height above average terrain.

A study has been conducted using TechWare software utilizing the parameters and criteria from the Commission's OET Bulletin 69 to evaluate potential interference, which would be caused by operation on Channel 13 at Arkadelphia. It was determined that two stations would be effected by the proposed operation on channel 13. However, the study appended hereto demonstrates that an Effective Radiated Power (ERP) of 7.3 KW does meet the *de minimus* interference requirement to the other effected stations.

The petitioner, Arkansas Educational Television Commission (AETC), is also licensee of the effected NTSC channel 13 station, KAFT-TV Fayetteville, Arkansas, and has agreed to accept any and all interference resulting from the proposed operation of Channel 13 in Arkadelphia, Arkansas. The proposed allotment would cause a 1.3 % service loss to KAFT-TV, which would be acceptable to the licensee and meets the *de minimus* criteria.

The study indicates that the proposed operation would increase the service loss to KLTM-TV, Monroe, Louisiana, by 1.94 %. Hence, no significant increase in service loss would be expected by the proposed DTV operation on channel 13 at Arkadelphia. Thus, it is

believed that the grant of this petition would not materially effect the service of KLTM-TV since the predicted service loss is less than the *de minimus* requirements.

It is understood that the table of separations for new DTV allotments set forth in Section 73.623(d) is not applicable as this is not a new allotment but, rather, a modification of an allotment included in the initial DTV Table of Allotments.

The fully constructed facility operating from the reference coordinates would also comply with the principal city coverage requirement of Section 73.623(c)1.

Conclusion

Channel 13 can be operated at Arkadelphia, Arkansas for DTV service while complying with the Commission's service and interference requirements with the following parameters:

Channel	13
Reference Coordinates	33-54-26 N , 93-06-46 W
Antenna Height	326 meters
Maximum ERP	7.3 kW
Antenna Pattern	Omnidirectional
Tower Registration Number	1038196

Certification

This statement with associated exhibits was prepared by me or under my direction. All assertions contained in this statement are true of my own personal knowledge except where otherwise indicated and these latter assertions are based on information from sources know

reliable and are believed to be true.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. Wallace', is written over a horizontal line.

Dennis W. Wallace
Technical Consultant
Wallace & Associates

April 27, 2000

Attachment: Interference Study KETG-DT

Interference Study

Use of Channel 13 at Arkadelphia, Arkansas

It is proposed to use DTV Channel 13 at Arkadelphia, Arkansas as follows:

Reference Coordinates:	33° 54' 26" N Lat
	93° 06' 46" W Lon
Height	326 Meters
Maximum ERP	7.3 kW
Antenna Pattern	Omnidirectional

Channel Study

A detailed analysis was undertaken to determine ERP limits for a DTV facility operating on channel 13 using TechWare software, which utilizes the parameters and methods contained in OET Bulletin 69. The results of these studies with respect to interference, based on the use of the parameters listed above are summarized in Table 1. Interference to all NTSC and DTV stations meets the Commission's *de minimus* interference requirements.

Table 1

Station	Channel	Location	Increase Percent
KAFT-TV	13	Fayetteville, AR	1.33
KLTM-TV	13	Monroe, LA	1.94


Interference to KAFT-TV, Fayetteville, Arkansas from the proposed operation of DTV channel 13 from Arkadelphia is acceptable to the licensee of KAFT-TV, the Arkansas Educational Television Commission (AETC), who is also the petitioner.

Increased service loss to KLTM-TV, Monroe, Louisiana, is 1.94 %, which is less than the 2% maximum of the *de minimus* interference requirement per station.

From the above, it can be seen that implementation of channel 13 for DTV service at Arkadelphia as proposed would comply with the commission's interference requirements.

Certification

This statement with associated exhibits was prepared by me or under my direction. All assertions contained in the statement are true of my own personal knowledge except where otherwise indicated and these latter assertions are based on information from sources known to be reliable and are believed to be true.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. Wallace', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Dennis Wallace

Technical Consultant

Wallace & Associates

April 27, 2000